

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Hiroshi MIZUGUCHI et al.**

Group Art Unit: **3617**

Serial No.: **10/757,389**

Examiner: **Andrew D. Wright**

Filed: **January 15, 2004**

Confirmation No.: **4948**

For: **OUTBOARD MOTOR SHIFT MECHANISM**

Attorney Docket Number: **042005**

Customer Number: **38834**

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT
DATED December 29, 2004

Commissioner of Patents
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

January 25, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Requirement for an Election of Species dated December 29, 2004, the applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the Species of Group A: outboard motor with shock mitigator, claims 1-10.

The applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected claims.

The applicants respectfully request an early examination on the elected claims and favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions with this Response, please feel free to call the undersigned at telephone number indicated below.

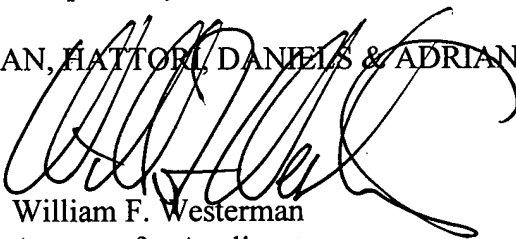
In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Application Serial No. 10/757,389

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge
our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. F. Westerman', is written over the firm name.

William F. Westerman
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 29,988

WFW/meu

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